CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STUDENT ASSESSMENT NEWS

June 9, 2016

Smarter Balanced Assessment Updates

The Smarter Balanced Assessment Window Closes Friday, June 10, 2016

Considerations about testing students as the test window closes:

- All Grade 3 – 8 students listed in the Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE) should **complete Smarter Balanced testing by Friday, June 10, 2016**.
- The mathematics assessment is comprised of two subtests, a computer adaptive test (CAT) and a performance task (PT). The English language arts (ELA) assessment includes a CAT session only. Students must log in to each subtest to count as a participant for a content area.
- Students must complete at least one item on each test (ELA CAT or Math CAT and PT) for a score to be generated in the content area.
- Access the Online Reporting System (ORS) in TIDE to monitor test completion.
- Districts should submit appeals by **12:00 p.m.** on Thursday, June 9, 2016. All appeals entered by **12:00 p.m.** on Thursday will be processed by 3 p.m. that day.

Checking Student Completion Rates Using the TIDE Online Reporting System

District Test Coordinators should use the TIDE Online Reporting System (ORS) to verify that students have completed the three components of the Smarter Balanced summative assessments (Math CAT, Math PT, and ELA CAT). To generate participation reports, log in to the TIDE ORS and click on the "Plan and Manage Testing" button.

The Connecticut Alternate Assessment (CTAA)

The Connecticut Alternate Assessment Window Closes Friday, June 10, 2016

Please access the reminder memo e-mailed to District Administrators on June 7, 2016, regarding the administration of the Connecticut Alternate Assessment to eligible participants and important information regarding the

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CTAA Connecticut Alternate Assessment

Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium

CMT/CAPT SCIENCE

SAT

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The Connecticut Alternate Assessment (CTAA), Continued

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Stopping Rule for students who qualify.

To ensure that tests are accessed and completed by June 10, and that all secure materials are managed appropriately, refer to the CTAA resources such as the [CTAA System User Guide](#) and the [CTAA Test Administration Manual](#) located on the [Connecticut Alternate Assessment portal](#).

Following test administration, securely shred any copies of the test, directions for test administration, scoring rubrics, and ensure all secure materials are removed from computers and assistive technology.

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Medical Exemption Update

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Some students were not able to participate in the Smarter Balanced or the Connecticut Alternate Assessment due to an emergency medical issue. A student is not considered Medically Exempt until the end of the testing window on June 10, 2016, and must be approved by the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE). Contact Joe Amenta at 860-713-6855 or Janet Stuck at 860-713-6837 for information about applying for a medical exemption. **Fax all signed Medical Exemption forms to Joe and Janet at 860-713-7018 no later than Friday, July 1, 2016.**

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Test Information Distribution Engine and Public School Information System

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District Test Coordinators need to work with their District PSIS Coordinators to ensure that each **student's status at the time of testing** is accurately being reported in the PSIS **Registration Module**, and subsequently in TIDE. All PSIS Coordinators should make all changes to student enrollment and demographic information directly in the PSIS **Registration Module**.

In addition to *EL, Special Education,* and *Free/Reduced Lunch Eligible;* districts should now enter the status of students who qualify for *Section 504* and *Recently Arrived EL* in the PSIS **Registration Module**.

Please ensure that the **student's status at the time of testing** is accurately reflected in PSIS. Accurate reporting in PSIS will result in accurate reporting in TIDE. Updated PSIS information will then be reflected in TIDE for all of the following assessments.

- Smarter Balanced
- Connecticut Alternate Assessments (CTAA)
- CMT/CAPT Science
- CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science

Student demographic values will be saved and the fields locked in PSIS on June 10, 2016.

CTAA	Smarter	CMT/CAPT	SAT
Connecticut Alternate Assessment	Balanced Assessment Consortium	SCIENCE	

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EdSight

[EdSight](#) is an interactive website that integrates important school and district information collected by the CSDE and serves as a single source for all data-driven analyses and reporting. Non-confidential aggregate data are available to the public. Information can be sorted, filtered, and compared across schools and districts, and across race, ethnicity and gender. ***Data from the 2014-15 Smarter Balanced test administration are now available through EdSight.***

To automatically receive the *Student Assessment News* and/or other announcements, [register for e-mail updates](#) on the Comprehensive Assessment Program Portal.

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